



PEOPLE'S WEEKLY

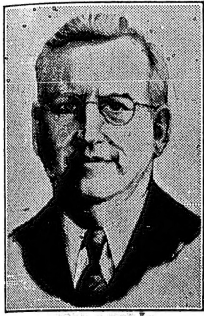


VOL. XXIX, No. 29

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1949

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REJECT CHEAP CAR INSURANCE



Legislative Committee Is Opposed

Representations of farm, municipal and other organizations which for several years have been pressing for compulsory automobile insurance at cost, have been spurned by a committee of the Alberta legislature which was appointed a year ago to study all phases of automobile insurance. The committee, reported to the House this week.

Making virtually no positive recommendations, the committee, which was headed by Hon. A. J. Hooke, confined itself largely to an examination of legislation now in force in other provinces and states.

Bulk of the report is devoted to a long and labored criticism. (Continued on page 8)

A. R. MOSHER,
President of the Canadian Congress of Labor, who along with Fred Dowling, Canadian Director, United Packinghouse Workers of America and Murray Cotterill, Political Action Director, C.C.L., will address a C.C.L. union mass rally and social in the Trocadero Ballroom on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. sharp. These C.C.L. officers are in Edmonton this week in connection with the Union Institute which is being held here March 12 and 13.

864,174 New Homes

AMAZING PROGRESS MADE IN BRITAIN

By KENNETH C. RATHBONE
MANCHESTER.—Under the British Labour government houses are now being built at more than twice the average rate they were built under former governments after World War I.

In the 3½ years since World War II, 425,720 permanent new houses have been built. It took seven years to build this number of houses after World War I.

This is the answer to those overseas as newspapers which are publishing misleading articles about the housing policy and achievements of the British Labor government.

By restoration of uninhabitable houses, conversions, requisitioning, new permanent houses, and new temporary houses, the Labor government has provided 864,174 new homes; rehusing, 3,250,000 men, women and children since 1946. The British Labor government has rehoused a number of people equal to one quarter of the population of Canada. (In 1946-46-47, Canada, built 195,000 homes; 1948 about 85,000—Ed.)

(Continued on page 8)

BNA ACT DISCUSSION ON "CITIZENS' FORUM"

"Does the B.N.A. Act Cramp Our Style?" is the subject for discussion on Citizens' Forum on C.D., Friday, March 18, at 9:30 p.m.

On Margarine Issue



H. H. HANNAM,
President, Canadian Federation of Agriculture

50-50 CHANCE ON APPEAL IS SEEN

OTTAWA, (CPA).—The appeal by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture to the Privy Council against the Supreme Court judgment on margarine has a 50-50 chance of success, H. H. Hannam, national president of the Federation, told a press conference in Ottawa.

If the appeal succeeds, the federal ban on margarine will once more be in effect, and present manufacturers of margarine run the risk of prosecution, Mr. Hannam said. He justified the action of the CPA on the ground that much more "protection" went into the prices of manufactured goods, including farm machinery which carries a high tariff. The dairy industry was entitled to just as much consideration as the manufactory shop assistants.

(Continued on Page 8)

Public Works Jobs for Only 5,000

Nothing Planned To Meet Expected Unemployment

OTTAWA, (CPA).—The Liberal government has next to nothing planned to meet the unemployment emergency which many signs indicate may not be far off. M. J. Goldwell, C.C.F. national leader, probed the government's much-vaunted shelf of public works projects and discovered that they amount to work for no more than 17,000 men within six months, tapering off to 5,000 men in a year. There might be additional industrial work for 15,700 men in the projects.

Today there are 50,000 unemployed in the Vancouver area alone, and the "depression" has not yet officially begun.

Since 1945, when the government laid its bright post-war

(Continued on Page 8)



M. J. GOLDWELL, M.P.,
scores unpreparedness of Liberal government in pointing to 50,000 already unemployed in Vancouver area.

Why Not Barter With Britain? Asks C.C.F. M.P.

OTTAWA, (CPA).—"If we wake up some day and find that Great Britain has concluded a barter deal for wheat with Russia, I think the whole economic structure not only of the prairies, but of this country, would be shaken to its foundations," a C.C.F. spokesman, Ross Thatcher, (Moose Jaw) warned the House of Commons on March 1st when he took issue with Trade Minister Howe for refusing to consider trade by barter.

Mr. Thatcher delivered the most plain-spoken challenge to government trade policies so far delivered by his group, but later that day Harry Archibald (Skeena) and George Castleden (Yorkton) pressed the same argument. Only the C.C.F. has so far called for a change in government trading policy—leaning heavily toward government long-term contract trading and, if financial obstacles make it necessary, direct barter.

"If barter or bilateral trade is the only way we can keep our British market, then by all means let us adopt barter," Mr. Thatcher said.

While many Canadians preferred multilateral trade, there

(Continued on page 8)



ROSS THATCHER,
C.C.F. member for Moose Jaw, urges an immediate top-level trade conference between Britain and Canada.

Mrs. Roosevelt Here

HUMAN RIGHTS ARE PEACE ESSENTIAL

That the best way to meet the Communist threat is to prove to the Russians that we mean to give to the masses of the people, "the kind of life, the chances of happiness and the sort of freedom which to us spells democracy," was the contention of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt when she addressed large audiences in Edmonton and Calgary last week under the auspices of the B'nai Brith lodge.

"When people can look at us and see that they have freedom to hope for and at the same time a chance of greater economic security, we will find the U.S.S.R. deciding we can live in the same world together," the distinguished American visitor declared.

Suspicious of Each Other

Pointing to the suspicion which is keeping the nations apart, she urged the need for a better understanding with the Soviet Union.

Chairman of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights, Mrs. Roosevelt related some of the difficulties encountered in reaching agreement among the 53 nations represented. The Russians, she said, were particularly difficult. Recognition of human rights and freedoms are essential to world peace, she maintained.

She urged everyone to read the Declaration of Human Rights which, she said, must not only be accepted by governments but by individuals in their homes and in their communities.

UNLIMITED PURSE IN TORY CAMPAIGN

BY DORIS FRENCH

OTTAWA, (CPA).—A 42-page booklet called "Constituency Organization"—the first in a series of five—has recently hit the mails from Progressive-Conservative Headquarters, Ottawa (a building recently known as "Bracken House," now under new management, with a coat of whitewash over its red brick).

The P-C booklet is "available in quantity" to P-C workers. No payment required.

Unlimited Funds

This is only one product of the unlimited purse which someone seems to have recently bequeathed (Continued on page 8)



Notes On Current Events

By William Irvine, M.P.

Afraid Of Freedom

IT IS A strange kink in the human mind which makes the would-be champions of freedom the most ardent and heedless destroyers of it. This fact may be accounted for, either by a blind spot in the brain which a psychiatrist may be able to explain, or it may be that those who would destroy freedom while pretending to be its saviors are really more afraid of freedom than they are of anything else.

Hon. George Drew, leader of the Official Opposition in Parliament, is a case in point. In the Throne Debate he hoisted the Jolly Roger of Toryism and prepared to run the gauntlet under his true colors. He assailed Communism bitterly, which is not a particularly courageous thing to do in Canada at the present time. But he wants it outlawed. He wants to pass legislation which will make it illegal for a Communist to ad-

mit that he is a Communist and which would forbid a person of that view to sit in any legislative body. He wants to amend the Criminal Code, by reintroducing Section 98, which was deleted by Parliament in 1936, as reactionary, dangerous and of that nature which only a "police state" would either introduce or tolerate.

"The Ottawa Citizen," commenting on Mr. Drew's speech in this connection, says how fittingly the word Tory is applied to his leadership and then observes: "Mr. Drew is apparently determined to search out every reactionary principle and prejudice and exploit them to the limit, if by doing so he can arouse mass fear and hate and thus ride into office."

It will surely not be forgotten that it was of the wagon of a similar hate, that Hitler rode to power. It is not Communism that

Drew and his superiors fear, it is freedom. Fearing freedom most of all he would pass oppressive laws so wide in their application as to be invoked against individuals or groups who hold views with which he does not agree. This is the destruction of freedom. Some people who fear Communism may be led to acquiesce without realizing that in doing so they have already destroyed that freedom which they fear Communism would destroy. But while Mr. Drew is rampant to pass a law to restrict and even to annihilate Communists he would not think of passing a law to prevent the 50 big shots from monopolizing Canadian wealth resources in the interests of their own profits. That is the sort of thing which makes Communists. He is trying to stop results without removing the cause.

Punished For Thinking

Benjamin Franklin very truly said that, "Those who are ready to sacrifice liberty for the purpose of achieving some temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety." Section 98 which was added to the Criminal Code by a Tory government during World War I, and which was invoked in the Winnipeg strike, was a provision which made it possible to punish men just for thinking. J. S. Woodsworth, one of the greatest among Canadians, who was a victim of this law, and when pressing for its repeal argued that man should be condemned only when it was proven that he had

committed an overt act; that he should never be condemned for merely thinking this or that. Mr. Drew would revive Section 98 which was drafted to punish men for thinking. Under such a law only those who can't think will be free. That will include most of the Tory ilk.

In Japan before the last war there was a law—and it may be there still — against dangerous thoughts. Mr. Drew would implant in Canada the autocratic imperialism of the pre-war militaristic Japan.

Mr. Drew is constantly pretending that he objects to a "Police

State." Could there be a worse form of "the Police State" than persecution which would result from the sort of law he proposes to enact? Under it, mind-reading policemen would be constantly arresting people charging them with having an idea. It is only another step back from that to the inquisition, when people were tortured until they confessed to believing what their torturers had charged them with believing. Such a condition might be a picnic for a sadistic reactionary but it is far from being the average Canadian's concept of freedom and democracy.

Distrusts The People

Canadians who by tradition and training hold the conviction that the right of a person to think and to organize his fellows in support of an idea, and to speak and write for the achievement of an idea, are liberties which are vital to democracy, will not support Mr. Drew's proposal to pass a law making it illegal to think thoughts which he dislikes. Ah! but you say, this will apply only to Communists. Yes, but what is a Communist? That has never yet been defined. The fact is that Mr. Drew charges everyone with Communism who disagrees with him. Tory and Grit politicians both

must Canadian Socialists with being Communists. J. S. Woodsworth was called a Communist; M. J. Goldwell has been kept busy for years denying that he and his followers are "Communists," and even Premier Manning has been dubbed a Communist supporter by the recalcitrants among his own following. None would be either free or safe under the Drew proposal except those who do his bidding.

Let it be supposed, however, that Communism is adequately defined and that the law which Mr. Drew proposes is to be applied only to Communists, what then? Would such methods stop Communism or hasten its coming? History should help to decide that question. Was there ever a country in the world's history which outlawed Communism sooner, or more completely and rigor-

ously, than Russia? I think the answer would be a universal and unanimous "No". And yet that was the first country to be swept by Communism. Contrast that with free Britain where they would scorn Drew's Section 98 and indeed would rebel against it.

In Britain, democracy is respected because it is unhampered. The people of Britain are not afraid of what the people of Britain might do to themselves if they are left free to choose their own way of doing things. But let even kings or prelates presume to interfere with their liberty and a Cromwell with his ironside will take over a Parliament and royal heads will roll in the dust. Mr. Drew is afraid of what the people might do by and for themselves so he wants to pass a law to safeguard them from themselves. He does not trust the people.

An Excuse For Communism

How can the privileges of citizenship be withheld from any person or group of persons without doing violence to the principle of democracy. It is true that proven

criminals are restricted by mutual consent, but this is not the sort of restriction which is proposed for Communists by Mr. George Drew. He threatens—if and when he comes to power—to pass a law making it illegal for a Communist to run for Parliament or to sit in Parliament were he elected.

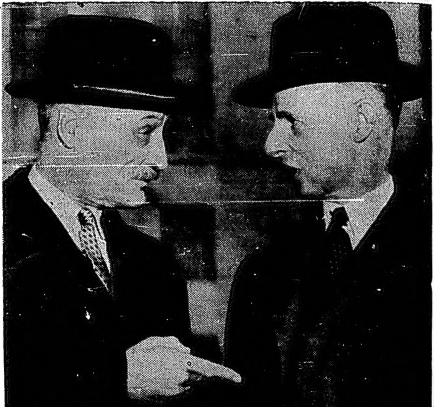
If it be true that Communists advocate the use of force to gain their ends, then the Drew Act, were it ever to become law, would remove all objection to their program since there would then be nothing left for them to do but adopt force as a means. That is exactly what the Czars did. But Communism went underground.

Last Man Out



John Danfield (right), the last of 16 miners rescued from the shaft of the Kittow Mine in Benton, Wisconsin, is congratulated by a friend after rescue squads brought him to the surface. The miners were entombed 152 feet below the surface. For seven hours they waited until a safety squad reached them.

Confer on Atlantic Pact



After a conference with Secretary of State, Dean Acheson, on the final wording of the North Atlantic Pact, Ambassadors Henri Benoit (left) of France and Eelco N. Van Kleffens of the Netherlands leave the State Department building in Washington.

It grew strong, Wiley, ferocious and ruthless in the dark. The Czar could not cope with such determined and formidable enemies who pounced upon his regime when they were ready and he remembered they got ready despite the Czarists' police state.

If prevented from espousing their cause publicly and if refused the democratic right to sit in Parliament, their arguments to use force will have an appeal which now it lacks. Canadians now say there is no need to use force because we can get what we want through the ballot. But once let that be denied and the case for the use of force becomes unanswerable.

When Mr. Drew adopts force to prevent Communists from running for Parliament, then he has already adopted the method of eliminating his opposition to which he professes to object most strenuously as Communist. That would bring him down to the level of what he himself regards as the most objectionable feature of Communist philosophy. The right to think, to write and speak freely, to invite people to join in pursuit of an idea and to run for Parliament are liberties which we boastfully contrast with the Russian methods. If Mr. Drew gets his way we shall have only Fascism and

(Continued on Page 6)

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FOR A PÔT OF PÔTTAGE

The old testament has a story about Jacob and his sons in which it is related how one of the sons cheated his brother out of his birthright by offering him a pot of pottage when he came in hungry and weary from the pastures, it's a vivid story. The lesson, of course, is to beware of selfish people who are ready to cheat us in deals when we are in distress or when we are unaware of the real value of our possessions. The story is so well known that whenever we hear of a bum deal we say so and so has sold his birthright for a pot of pottage.

I thought of Jacob and his sons when I read the big headlines a couple of weeks ago that the Social Credit government of Alberta had accepted a bid of 5 million dollars for two sections of required oil rights in the proven rich Redwater oil field, north of Edmonton. The purpose of the headlines was, of course, to make Albertans believe they were "cashing in" on their good fortunes through the good offices of their custodians, the Social Credit government. I could almost hear them exclaiming in delight: it's a windfall. Five million bucks! Good for Manning!

Yes, it's a windfall! all right. But not for the people of Alberta. The windfall is for the Imperial Oil Company and its satellites. The papers never disclosed how much oil was handed out for that 5 million dollars. Neither did the government intimate the size of the pot of liquid gold that was turned over to the oil trust for this "tip" of 5 million dollars. Just a tip, that's all, when you realize the fortune that was involved in the deal.

The two sections will soon start spouting oil (\$3 per barrel) from 32 wells at the controlled rate of some 200 barrels per day per well. The average life of an oil field is about 20 years, by actual experience. Maybe more. In that period these 32 wells will discharge 47 million barrels. Worth 140 million dollars. It will cost the company about 3 million dollars for drilling and 16 million dollars, for royalties, of 12 1/2% leaving clear velvet of 124 million bucks. The government accepted a 5 million dollar tip for this fortune. Wonderful, isn't it? I mean for the Imperial Oil.

No wonder the wife of the premier of the province is invited to Pittsburgh for a trip to christen a multi-million dollar Imperial Oil tanker. Such nice people, these Albertans. Show'em a good time. Why, sure, give the old age pensioner a tip too—\$3 per month and make them feel like a million dollars. Why, heck, that 124 million dollar jackpot is only one of many. There are more to come. Give them another little tip. Always remember how happy the Indians were when

FAVORS WORLD GOVERNMENT

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: A World Government will not only be possible, but will be essential in order to save our present civilization.

I feel quite sure that as soon as we begin to cool off from our war hysteria, and take a more objective approach as to what would be involved in an atomic war, we will realize that, fear of its consequences alone, will stay all hands and prevent it.

Suppose atom bombs were dropped on Moscow, London, Washington, Ottawa; and other cities throughout the world. In this last war people were able to live among the ruins and use the rubble to rebuild again, but when infected with radio-active matter, the cities and any other territory where atom bombs explode, would become uninhabitable. What would happen if some small country would become fully infected?

There is no assurance that only one side, have the atom bomb, but suppose we were alone to possess this atom bomb, would we, who along with other nations, only a short time ago outlawed the use of poison gas because it was too inhuman to be used in modern wars, use this bomb, one hundred times more deadly to all life as well as property? I say "No", we Canadian and American people will not use the atomic bomb.

I am of the opinion that Stalin was sincere when he told Mr. Eric Johnston, the head of movie industry, two years ago, that the two systems could prevail side by side and carry on trade to mutual benefit. We are witnessing a continuous change in systems all over the world in every stage of progress. Man would neither stop the change nor establish any one system in one step.

There will be difficulties and take time to build the U.N. into an effective world government, but, if the alternative to such a government is an atom war then I can see no alternative but to go ahead, full steam to promote such a government.

Let us work for a World Government!

W. DAHLBERG.
2330 Victoria Ave.,
Regina, Saskatchewan.

WANTS ORDERLY MARKETING

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: In your Feb. 5 issue I see the following words credited to C.C.F. Leader M. J. Goldwell, speaking in the Commons: "There is no doubt in my mind that a return to the marketing of wheat through the speculative channels, even in part, would be a major disaster for the producers on our western plains—an opinion which I know is shared by a great majority of our western farmers."

That is language which most farmers will "get" and approve. In the above connection, I am reminded of the thought of a wise observer of this rural-urban scene: "The farmer is so placed in the economic system that—both as a producer and consumer—he deals with business concerns which are

the Astors traded Manhattan Island for a few kgs of rum."

Well, maybe someday the "white Indians" in Alberta will wake up to the fact that the source of their social dividends has been given away by a Social Credit government to foreign oil companies for a bag of peanuts. Perhaps by that time the oil pools will be sucked dry and our grand-children will be asking: daddy, what are those holes all over the countryside?

Letters to the editor may be published under a pseudonym, but in each case the name and address of the writer must be forwarded to the editor as evidence of good faith. The People's Weekly takes no responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents and will not publish any letters exceeding 300 words in length.

in a position to make the terms of the traffic, which it is for him to take or leave. Therefore, the margin of benefit that comes to him for his work is commonly at a minimum."

All this reader feels like adding to M.J.C.'s challenging thought is this: That a return of wheat marketing "through the speculative channels" would also be "a major disaster" for any political party which would be foolhardy enough to endeavor to bring it about. The trend throughout the world is toward orderly marketing and away from "boom-and-bust"; whatever the grain trade (and George Drew) may say, or do!

REALIST.

300 WORD LIMIT

Contributors to "The People Speak" column are reminded that there is a 300 word limit on letters and that letters exceeding this length cannot be published. This rule was relaxed somewhat when a limited number of letters were being received but with more subscribers now participating, it is necessary to adhere to the 300 word limit. So please, if you want a letter published, keep it brief.

GOOD DEAL FOR BIG BUSINESS

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: I was interested in Wm. Irvine's article in a recent edition of the "People's Weekly" re big business and income tax deductions. I have noticed this practice for a long time and was glad to see Mr. Irvine write it up. But he did not go far enough.

Look at almost any copy of the daily press, and you will find at least one (often more) huge high-priced ads. by organizations which have no need to advertise their wares, such as bonds, oil companies, nickel companies and many others. Of course this is all supposed to be legitimate business and might pass but when you see these same papers come out day after day with editorials, column articles and reproductions (from like papers) all aimed at opposing any social or economic change and blasting each and every Labor government in the world, it can only add up to one thing "you pay me for big ads. (useless or otherwise) and I will condemn your opponents on every occasion."

You see the big boys could not get out on income tax by direct payment of funds and the public might get wise. Anyway people might be inclined to believe an editorial or news item when they would not be influenced by a company ad. So you see its a good deal for big business and the daily press but a raw deal for government finances and the rest of the population that can't dodge the tax collector.

EX-FARMER.

Drumheller, Alberta.

GLEAR, STRAIGHT AND NOBLE

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: I note a letter by Mr. Huffman in a recent issue which is seemingly sincere and that is what I like, making it worthwhile referring to it. Mr. Huffman says the C.C.F. is not founded

lars more in income tax as without papers they were acting criminally and so were in a vise and no escape. Why wasn't it done? Simply because the monopolies always call the tune for their Ottawa puppets to dance to and if no dance then no monopoly political slush fund.

And incidentally the editor says, "the Criminal Code can always deal with those who undermine the state." Fine, editor you can't prosecute the very holy sacrosanct Liberal Rex of Ottawa. If that was allowed then what would become of king graft, Liberals and monopolies?

TOM L. POULSON.

Rochford Bridge, Alberta.

Bus. Phone 22342

K. M. HENRY

OPTOMETRIST

10345 Jasper Ave.

Edmonton

Alberta

SHADOW-BOXING

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: Lorne Ingle's article re the possible prosecution of the Bread Combines—it is just shadow-boxing and window-dressing by the Liberal government at Ottawa.

The Canadian financial monopoly set-up will see for sure that it will fizzle out and that there is no precedent established just as has happened in most of the other cases. Recall the recent cases, all abortive, due to "the fact" that everything "just happened"—no official, ever signed any papers but the business went on just the same and the monopoly squeeze on the public was and is still terrific.

Common sense asks: "how did any accountant ever draw up their financial statement, or fix their income tax payments without papers?" And so, why did not our very self-serving Liberal government (Income Tax Department) demand half, and one million dol-



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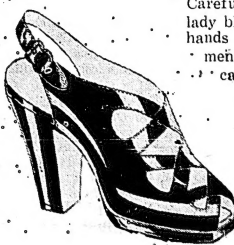
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PREJUDICED REPORT

THE COMMITTEE, appointed by the Alberta legislature last year to report on all phases of automobile insurance has submitted its findings. The result of the study is exactly nothing.

The committee admits that "no uninsured motor vehicle should be on the road." But it rejects the only plan by which it can be assured that there will be no uninsured motor vehicle on the road. It admits that the rates under the Saskatchewan scheme are much lower than those of private companies, and that the present cost of automobile insurance in Alberta is too high, but it dismisses as "paternalistic" a scheme which makes it possible for the motorists of the province to co-operate together to keep rates at cost.

Almost every line in the report reveals the committee members to be prejudiced against public action and in favor of the private insurance companies. Its chief mission appeared to be to find reasons why compulsory insurance at cost should not be provided. It made a poor job of it.

EXPORTING OUR TOP SOIL

IN HIS address in the legislature on the Speech from the Throne, the C.C.F. leader, Elmer E. Roper, called attention to a situation which he said should be a matter of grave concern to every thoughtful Canadian. It was the manner in which through the development of her rich resources, by American financial and industrial interests "Canada is rapidly becoming, if indeed she had not already become, an economic colony of the United States of America."

Mr. Roper is not the only Canadian who is becoming alarmed over this situation. The March, 1949, issue of the *Farm and Ranch Review* has a striking leading editorial article which carries the significant heading: "Exporting Canadian Top Soil builds American colleges and hospitals." It should be recommended reading for every Canadian voter. The opening paragraphs of the article follow:

Suppose that an American enterpriser came into your district and made this proposition to you and your neighbors:

"There is a wonderful market in the United States for top soil. If we can get the right concessions, we are prepared to come to Canada, erect a \$50,000,000 factory and process this top soil and ship millions of tons of it to the United States. It will create riches for the farmers who sell their top soil, and it will help Canada to solve her American dollar problem."

Our enterprising friend would be laughed at. There would be a rush to ask him this question:

"It sounds wonderful, but what do we do when the top soil is all gone?"

Yet the really staggering fact about the Canadian economy is this: Our national policies have been directed for many years toward encouraging American capital to export our top soil. We have seen that happen everywhere, only we haven't called it top soil. We have called it paper, oil, copper, gold, nickel. We are preparing, at this moment, to encourage American capital to take possession of the world's richest iron ore deposit. In the end, we will be in exactly the same position as the farm community, would be in if it shipped out its top soil. We will be the owners of denuded forests in British Columbia, pumped out oil fields in Alberta, yawning caverns of worked-out mines in the north. And the capital increment from the development of all these resources will have accrued to the people who provided the capital.

NOT GOOD ENOUGH

AS A RESULT of a report made by a group of investigators acting on behalf of the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire, the Alberta government appointed a Royal Commission composed of three eminent judges to investigate child welfare in the province.

The Commission held very extensive hearings, heard scores of witnesses and received many briefs from persons and organizations interested in child welfare. It was one of the most comprehensive investigations of its kind ever held in the province.

The Minister of Health, Hon. Dr. Cross, discussed the report in his address in the debate on the Speech from the Throne. Or, rather he did not discuss the report of the Commission, but devoted his time to a savage attack on the persons who wrote the I.O.D.E. report. He dismissed the Commission's recommendations in a few words the substance of which was that Mr. Justice Howson and his colleagues didn't know what they were talking about and the only people who did were the present employees of the Alberta Welfare Branch.

This isn't good enough. The Howson Commission went to the greatest possible pains to obtain the most expert evidence available and from its investigations made twenty-two separate recommendations for what it considered vitally necessary changes in child welfare administration. It is not unreasonable to say that Dr. Cross would have shown more statesmanship, and would have been serving the people of Alberta better, if he had told the legislature in detail what he intended to do to remedy the inadequacies found by the Royal Commission to exist in child welfare administration. We doubt if the people of the province are interested in his personal feud with Dr. Charlotte Whitton. They are interested in Child Welfare.

THE THIRD COLUMN

WHEN IS A HOLD-UP NOT A HOLD-UP?

Alberta Wheat Pool, Feb. 18:
"The Financial Post of Toronto, in July, 1937, printed an editorial headed, 'Our Mad Wheat Gamble', in extract from which is as follows:

"European countries will be a long time forgetting the attempt of the Canadian Wheat Pool . . . to hold them up in the dying hours of the last period of prosperity."

"The issue of the Financial Post of January 8, 1949, contains another editorial on wheat marketing entitled, 'We Lost the Gamble'. The reasoning put forth is that Canada should have gotten \$3 a bushel for all the wheat she exported to Britain in recent years."

"Surely the editor of the Financial Post must recognize the inconsistency to plain in the two editorials referred to. It is quite manifest that he cannot be right in both instances."

★

FARMERS KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR THEM

J. H. Weslon, President,
Saskatchewan Wheat Pool

In Monetary Times:
"Since 1946, when the Wheat Agreement between Canada and Great Britain went into effect, our farmers have enjoyed stable prices for their wheat and a greater measure of prosperity than they had ever known before. The agreement has been savagely criticized by some newspapers, politicians, and opponents of any method of marketing wheat except through the speculative open market system. Interests which showed little concern for the farmer when he was forced to market his grain year after year below the cost of production have done their utmost to discredit all efforts of farmers in many countries to establish orderly systems of marketing and replace by international agreement the auction method of selling their grain."

"It is hard for the farmer to understand why so many business and financial men 'unthinkingly' lend their support to the doctrine that the farmer does not know what is good for him. The farmer knows very definitely through bitter experience that 'boom and bust' policies do not agree with the man on the land. Industry surely has had enough demonstrations of how quickly bad times in rural areas bring about hard times in the cities."

★

LAND OF THE FREE!

From SEGREGATION IN WASHINGTON: "A report recently issued by National Commission on Segregation:

"Segregation has reached the place in the capital where a dog cemetery has erected a color bar against the burial of dogs belonging to colored people. In announcing this policy, the owner stated that he assumed the dogs would not object but he was afraid his white customers would."

★

20th CENTURY PROGRESS

Premier T. C. Douglas:
"Fifty years ago if two Saskatchewan farmers quarrelled over a cow, the one that was quickest on the draw got the cow; today if they quarrel over a cow, they go to town and get a lawyer—and the lawyer gets the cow; that's progress."

★

FOOTPRINTS

DEMOCRACY—
A SOCIAL FAITH

BY J. P. GRIFFIN



"May their hearts be ennobled. May they learn the meaning of love. May they have all the strength of conviction that comes from insight."

OUR NEXT article of faith is that the human mind can be trusted; and should be set free. This is a far cry from the attitude taken by the members of the ruling classes in Britain toward the education of the "lower orders" less than one hundred years ago. While education alone cannot make men good, it is difficult to see how it is possible, in these days of complex economic and international interrelations, to be a good citizen without it.

That universal education in the U.S.A. is not as universal as capitalist apologists assert, is evidenced by a questionnaire recently published in "LIFE". This showed that the official taking the 1950 census will be asking: "What was the highest grade of school you completed, in elementary school, in high school, in college, and have you had less than one year of regular schooling?" Certainly no nation has reached a high standard of living where it is possible to answer yes to the last question on the list.

The human mind can be trusted. We are not the helpless victims of either economic or supernatural forces. Just as the recognition of law and order in the universe rescued the sick from the mumbled incantations of the quack doctor and the voodoo man, and as the intelligent historical study of scripture freed human

thought from superstition, and the clutches of a greedy priesthood, so economic myths and superstitions will be swept from the path of human progress, as people everywhere come to understand the simple basic facts underlying the processes of production, distribution and consumption.

The human mind should be set free. Free from the misinformation daily handed out to it by the servile purveyors of information through the radio, the picture, and the press. Wherever capitalism has had complete freedom it has almost always abused that freedom. Absolute power has here, with a few notable exceptions, corrupted absolutely. It is the duty of free men to resist this domination with every means at their disposal, and to see to it that no group of informers anywhere comes between them and that Truth which is the very voice of God.

In a capitalist economy human minds are sharpened by the lure of competitive gains. But this is a competition in cunning, in acquisitiveness, and in self-aggrandizement. It does not teach the meaning of love, and without that saving grace men become devoid of insight into the moral meaning of their activities. Above all therefore the human mind must be set free from anything that tends to lessen the moral quality of its conclusions. It must be free to hope, to dream, to plan, to aspire and to achieve, and to do all this without damaging its moral sense of social responsibility in co-operation with those of like mind wherever it may find them.

Land Of Opportunity
---For The Oil BaronsBy Mrs. Nellie Peterson,
President, Alberta C.C.F.

THE YOUNG lady wasn't exactly pleased with the appearance of the new boy friend's car. "Why in the world is it orange on one side and green on the other?" she asked. "Gee," he replied, "You'd know the answer to that if you ever listened to the witnesses contradict each other!"

I don't know what that boy grew up to be, but the S.C. propaganda bandwagon would stem it to have been painted by someone with just such an eye for future contingencies.

The Calgary Herald, March 1, quotes Douglas Harkness, Progressive-Conservative, (Calgary East) as saying that provincial government revenues were running to \$1,500 per day from oil royalties, and that sales-of-oil rights had netted the government \$11,000,000 dollars. Alberta, he continued, was the "land of opportunity" and it would stay that way "as long as we keep the dead-hand of Socialism out of it."

We hardly needed Mr. Harkness to tell us that the P.C.-S.C. help-

archy will certainly try to keep this a "land of opportunity" for the Big Shots!

But if mere facts could lighten the darkness of Mr. Harkness' thinking, he would have recognized that the boasted \$11,000,000 is in the public treasury solely because a very "wide-awake and very much alive C.C.F. (democratic Socialism) compelled an unwilling but fearful S.C. government to set aside certain oil areas for the Crown (this people). It is from the sale of these leases that the people of Alberta are getting a small portion of what is rightly their own!

But while newspaper and government publicity throws a halo of oil dollars around Alberta's brow, Dr. Robert Newton, President of the University of Alberta, points out that our university's back is against the wall, financially speaking.

"Apparently the government of this oil rich province has decided that non-dollar-dividend-producing education is unworthy of the financial assistance necessary to adequately support our university! Social Credit Democracy?"

Now what does this mean? Simply this: Student fees must be

(Continued on page 7)

The Honor Roll...

Amounts turned in by canvassers for memberships and People's Weekly subscriptions.

Wetaskiwin	
Crooked Lake C.C.F. Club, J. B. Hayfield	\$55.00
Edmonton	
Mrs. D. L. Shortliffe	\$52.00
Mrs. J. Adair	\$26.00
J. E. Enright	\$24.00
J. A. Coné	\$19.00
H. G. Sorenson	\$17.00
John Gow	\$16.00
Er. H. Moore	\$14.00
Walter Mentz	\$12.00
Red Deer	
D. C. Dandell	\$46.00
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B. B. Starky	\$40.00
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O. E. Wobik	\$37.00
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Mrs. Edna Adamson	\$35.00
Stettler	
Jos. J. Tipman	\$31.00
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L. A. Witts	\$20.00
Bruce	
Mrs. C. Berg	\$14.00
Grouard	
A. E. Davis	\$14.00
Bruce	
Wm. Laskoski	\$14.00
Wetaskiwin	
Clifford E. Nystrom	\$14.00
La. Ste. Anne	
P. T. Rose	\$12.00
Bruce	
Roy Erickson	\$10.00
Acadia-Coronation	
R. M. Thornton	\$10.00
Acadia-Coronation	
Pedro Hauzer	\$ 8.00

A Good Canvasser



J. H. DOWLER

The C.C.F. Renewal Membership drive in Edmonton is progressing favorably. Memberships and subs have passed the \$500 mark. Among those leading the drive is J. H. Dowler with \$55 collected to date.

The wind-up of the drive will take place at the annual constituency banquet at the Seven Seas on Wednesday, March 23. Admission to the banquet is \$12.50. Guest speakers will be Elmer E. Roper, M.L.A. and Aymer Liesemer, M.L.A.

The Parent, The Teacher, And The Child

BY AN EX-TEACHER MOTHER

HEALTHY ATTITUDES, co-operation, a fine respect, tolerance, etc., are essential if a desirable relationship between the teacher and the child is to exist. We ask ourselves what part does the parent play in establishing this attitude?

Too often Johnny comes home with a complaint that teacher (and this happens with the best of teachers and the brightest of pupils) has done this or said that. Johnny very indignantly registers his disapproval and the parents realize that his feelings have been hurt. They, loving Johnny, have some twinges, too, but this isn't the time to agree too wholeheartedly with sonny. In fact by careful interrogation one will undoubtedly find that it is Johnny who has misunderstood or he may have deliberately violated some accepted form of behavior in the school and has come-home seeking sympathy.

Usually in the home where parents co-operate with the teacher in every way, and always in the presence of their children speak respectfully of their teacher, these problems will not present themselves so frequently and one might add that a child is benefited in several ways thereby.

A Place for Coaching

Too, the question of the parent coaching or supplementing the teaching of his child is a problem that is constantly arising. Certainly a frenzied effort to cram Sally with historical facts, etc., in order that she may be a leading light in the class is wrong. However, there is a place for coaching at times and that time will present itself. For example: Sally says, "Mother, I had most of my addition wrong today or I had several mistakes in spelling." Sally is in need of individual attention.

Our teachers in the main in rural areas have too many grades and in many instances, the enrolment is too great and in urban centres the latter holds true; hence individual instruction is limited. Mother can step in here. Fifteen minutes each day devoted to drill in addition, multiplication, etc., will give Sally that grounding and at the same time self-confidence she may be needing.

So Necessary

Also, the development of a spelling consciousness in a child is so necessary. Here again the parent can assist. It need not be a hardship. Frequent reference to the usage of words and their spelling in the home will bring its reward.

Good Literature

Teachers, too, emphasize the need of encouraging children to read good literature. The more this avenue is explored by them, if their choice is guided, the greater their fund of knowledge. Indirectly it aids in their ability to express themselves. Do your children read comic books? In certain types the English and the moral standards set are anything but desirable. Why allow children to waste their time when they

could be reading something beneficial.

Every child, commencing school should have acquired the skill of putting on his outer clothing and of placing it on a hook. He should know a few health habits such as: having a regular time each morning of going to the lavatory before he goes to school, of washing his hands, afterwards and before he eats, drinking several glasses of water each day and brushing his teeth after each meal.

No "Royal Road"

The use of audio-visual aids in the school is becoming more and more popular. However, teachers recognize them only as a supplement to teaching and maintain that there isn't any "royal road" to learning. Pictures of this type are used as a source of information and not to entertain the child. Children realizing this will not be disappointed and will set about gleaming the information they are intended to derive. Here again, parents may assist in the building of correct attitudes.

Have we been speaking of co-operation? Yes, co-operation in action between the school and the home!

EDMONTON CCF WOMEN MEET MONDAY, 8 P.M.

Regular monthly meeting of the Edmonton Women's C.C.F. Club will be held at the home of Mrs. P. McDougall, 9508 - 105 Street, on Monday, March 14, at 8 p.m. Final arrangements for the market stall on March 19 will be made. Please bring your sewing and aprons to this meeting or leave them at the home of Mrs. D. L. Shortliffe, 10932 - 87th Ave.

The bartender waited for the two drunks at the bar to give their order, then looked down at their pal who had fallen in the middle of the floor and made no effort to rise. "What'll he have?" he asked.

"Nothing, Bub," answered one of them, "he's driving."

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CANCEL CCF MEETING TO HEAR A. R. MOSHER

Regular meeting of the Edmonton C.C.F. scheduled for Tuesday, March 15, has been cancelled in order to give the members an opportunity to hear A. R. Mosher, president of the Canadian Congress of Labor, who will be speaking at a union mass rally at the Trocadero ballroom on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. A dance and bingo will follow the meeting. Tickets are 50 cents each.

The annual Edmonton C.C.F. banquet will be held at the Seven Seas on Wednesday, March 23, with Elmer E. Roper, M.L.A., provincial leader, and A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A., as guest speakers. Those desiring tickets (\$1.25) are asked to phone Mrs. D. L. Shortliffe, or Mrs. J. W. Adair, phone 31615, by Monday, March 21.

GCF SALE OF WORK AT MARKET MARCH 19

C.C.F. members and friends are invited to patronize the C.C.F. Edmonton Women's Club Stall at the Market on Saturday, March 19.

Lunch will be served and aprons and home cooking will be on sale. Any donations of aprons or home cooking will be greatly appreciated by the club, and should be left with Mrs. D. L. Shortliffe, phone 33988.

Correction Please!

OTTAWA, (CPA).—Correction please!

The following statement attributed to Tom Bentley, (C.C.F., Swift Current) on page 993 of Hansard might have caused some eyebrow-lifting among veterans: "I stayed in one of these houses (built by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation) with a young veteran and his family this winter, Mr. Speaker. . . It is a nice house in the winter, but I am convinced it will be a flytrap in the summer."

The proof-readers slipped up. What Mr. Bentley said was "an ice house."

Political Pattern In Quebec

By Observer

WITH Mr. Duplessis and his Union Nationale party controlling all but eight out of the 92 seats in the legislature, and with the Liberal opposition more reduced in prestige even than it is numbers, Quebec has very nearly reached that ideal condition, for dictators—the one-party state. The mopping-up operations are still going on.

Wherever there remains a centre of power, there the Duplessis machine reaches in to secure all the positions possible for its own nominees. The Jeune Chambre de Commerce was captured by the Union Nationale last year, and in consequence has almost been destroyed. The Conseil d'Administration of the University of Montreal is said to be dominated by Duplessis men. Top posts in the various government services and commissions have long since passed into the hands of the faithful.

Independent Courts

The provincial courts are being remodelled so as to make them more independent, the latest move being the creation of a new provincial court of appeal for provincial matters whose decisions are intended to be final. As far as possible the judicial link with Ottawa is to be cut.

Quebec is promised its own separate radio commission.

Anti-Labor Code

The proposed new labor code, easily the most anti-labor statute ever put forward in Canada since Confederation, would have barred any Quebec unions from affiliating with any outside bodies which could be considered under the control of Communists or Marxists; united labor action among A.F. of L., C.C.L. and Catholic unions has forced a delay of one year in the introduction of the code, but its contents reveal the mentality of the government.

Truly, the iron curtain round Quebec is being woven fair.

This game exactly suits St. James Street and Big Business in Quebec—whether it be owned by English, French or American capitalists. It is well known that Mr. Duplessis received handsome contributions to his "casse elettorale" from the very corporations which most exploit the province for the benefit of anyone except



MME. THERESE CASGRAIN

National Vice-President of the C.C.F., will be a tower of strength to the movement in its campaign in Quebec. For more than twenty years she has carried on a courageous campaign on the side of justice and humanity in her province. She spearheaded the drive to win the vote for Quebec women in 1940.

the masses of the people. And why should they not be grateful?

Though every Union Nationale politician preaches "provincial autonomy" and "Quebec for the Quebecers" the natural resources continue to be given away for next to nothing to "foreign" capitalists. How much these gentlemen care for Quebec, even if they are Catholics, was well shown in the silicosis battle, when the Hollinger interests, with the help of Mr. Duplessis, succeeded in forcing a retraction from the Jesuit order after it had exposed the dreadful conditions existing in the little village of St. Remi d'Amherst.

Big money knows no race or religion, and serves a single God whose sign is the sign of the dollar, by waving the provincial flag, attacking Ottawa, and beating down legitimate trade unions under the pretence of saving us all from Communism. Mr. Duplessis gives back good value to his money masters.

Safe For Investors

Nationalism is the most potent opium of the Quebec people. So skillfully does the premier play upon it, and so sure is he of his position, that he does not hesitate to stand up in the Ritz Carlton hotel and say to Mr. Schram, president of the New York Stock Exchange: "I want you to carry back a message to the American people, and to tell them that nowhere in North America are the rights of investors so secure as they are in the Province of Quebec." American investors will know what this means: they have the "Banana States" in Central America as examples. And this from the great savior of the culture of Quebec!

Bright Spots

There are some bright spots in the picture, however. Two events in the past month have shown not only that there is a fighting spirit in some sections of the community, but that it is well organized and widely supported. The first was the strike among the lay teachers in the Catholic schools. To have any teachers striking is remarkable; to have Catholic teachers striking is doubly remarkable. Yet on January 17, after interminable and fruitless negotiations for improved salaries, 1,700 teachers went home from school, the Eng-

lish-speaking group standing solidly with their French-speaking colleagues. Though Mr. Duplessis thundered, calling the strike illegal, and though Mr. Eugene Simard, chairman of the Montreal Catholic School Commission, threatened automatic suspension of any teachers who would not report back to work, the group stuck together with admirable courage and restraint. All the trade union bodies in Montreal rallied to their support, with many other parent-teacher associations and public organizations.

C.C.F. Backed Teachers

The C.C.F., alone among political parties, took their side. Eventually the strike ended on a solemn assurance from Archbishop Charbonneau that "satisfaction" would be rendered to the profession, and while Mr. Simard refused to promise that there would be no discrimination none has yet been shown and it is not considered likely (though the risk is there) that the authorities would dare to penalize any of the strikers. Here at least is an influential organization, ably led by Mr. Guindon, that Mr. Duplessis has not been able to terrorize. Education in Quebec, especially for poor children, is still shamefully neglected.

Labor Fights Back

The other sign of popular strength was produced by the announcement of the new labor code. Never before has labor unity of action been so quickly achieved. Within a few days a "cartel", representing A.F. of L., G.E.L. and Catholic unions, was created to fight the bill, and an initial fund of \$100,000 was promised. The three labor delegates to the Superior Labor Council resigned together. Labor is now going to prepare its own labor code, refusing to have anything to do with Mr. Duplessis' nefarious bill.

Several other bodies have supported labor's stand, and the government has had to hold the bill over. Once again organized labor showed itself the best defender of our fundamental freedoms.

Whether Quebec unions, large numbers of whose members voted for Mr. Duplessis only last July, will now learn the lesson of his real intentions, remains to be seen; but it will not take many more such proofs to create the basis for really independent labor political action in Quebec. This will be the opportunity for the C.C.F., which has now had a long experience in fighting labor's battles, and whose government in Saskatchewan has enacted the best labor legislation in Canada.

Meanwhile, the federal election is coming, and here again the fine hand of Mr. Duplessis will be seen. He will not, of course, openly support Mr. Drew. He will not need to; his help can be more effective because more subtle.

What is taking place in Quebec is simply that the Union Nationale party machine is taking over the nominating, the running and the electing of Conservative candidates. The men chosen will be Duplessis' men; they will owe everything to him and nothing to Mr. Drew; and when elected they will speak and act for Mr. Duplessis at Ottawa.

Quebec will thus achieve its Ottawa bloc. To anyone who knows what is going on, the evidence that this is taking place is

Calgary Tory M.P.

WOULD TAKE OFF ALL THE CONTROLS

OTTAWA, (CPA).—Mr. D. S. Harkness, (P.C., Calgary East) thinks the ceiling price should come off all remaining foods and lumber. Citrus fruits, best source of Vitamin C, essential to health, might well go up "two or three times" in price, Mr. Harkness said. He thought this would make people drink more home-grown apple juice. Bread and butter should both be free from control, the Conservative member added. He was speaking on the motion to extend remaining controls for one year.

Would Eliminate Them

"There is no reason for the continuation of these controls and I should like to see the government eliminate them. . . . I think the timber control might well go out the window. The lumber yards in Calgary appear to have an over-supply of lumber. There seems to be no shortage from what I can see, and I do not think the continuation of this control is justified," Mr. Harkness said.

Following in the debate, Rodney Young, (C.C.F., Vancouver Centre) said the people in his constituency would prove a very hos-

overwhelming. It has had its first successful try-out in the by-election in Nicolet-Yamaska. This explains why Mr. Drew, leading the party which has traditionally stood for national unity and national policies, is now preaching a form of petty provincialism and exaggerated provincial autonomy as extreme as anything the little lawyer from Three Rivers has ever uttered.

Financiers Silent Partners

It will be a sad day for all Canadians, French as well as English speaking, if the trick works. For behind the whole facade of provincial rights, behind Mr. Duplessis and Mr. Drew, stand the silent partners of St. James and Bay Streets, who possess in these two wonder boys what seems to be the ideal combination for weakening the trade unions, checking social reforms and riveting still further their monopolistic hold upon Canada's natural resources.

Walking Hand in Hand

That Quebec nationalism and Toronto imperialism are walking hand in hand, matters nothing; this is an old pattern in Canadian politics because the reactionary purpose is old and the backers are old players at the game. They thrive, as did the English in India, on racial divisions, language divisions, and every form of fear and hate.

Not until their power is broken by a democratic movement from below, which the Liberal party can never lead, will the people of Canada walk into their rightful heritage, a heritage which fosters, supports and enriches two cultural traditions and two languages within a single federal state, and at the same time develops the vast wealth of this land for the benefit of all and not for the project of a privileged few.

NEW COMMUNIST LINE GOOD NEWS TO MOSHER

OTTAWA, (CPA).—"The best news in a long time," was the way A. R. Mosher, Canadian Congress of Labor president, described the February change in the Communist line to withdraw support from the C.C.F. Mr. Mosher, in a long, blunt statement issued to the press recently, frankly welcomed the move by the Communists to "come out into the open and fight the C.C.F."

The C.C.L. president linked the Congress closely with the C.C.F. in a common effort to promote social progress in Canada. He observed that the Communists are now attacking both the C.C.F. and the C.C.L. leaders, the latter because of their recent move to withdraw from the World Federation of Trade Unions. This is "being done," Mr. Mosher said, "with a view to clearing the way for a genuine world trade union movement, which will be free and democratic."

tile audience to the proposals of Mr. Harkness. "They are on the end that has to pay for the lumber . . . and there is no surplus in the place where the lumber originates, in British Columbia," Mr. Young said.

Notes On Current

(Continued from Page 2)

ected by force in Canada to compare with Communism protected by force in Russia.

Would it not be much better to trust the people with liberty? When people know that they have in the way of government and economic conditions all that they know how to obtain, that no dictator or restrictive laws of persecution stand between them and a fuller life, there will be nothing against which to use force except themselves. To trust the people with liberty is the only real antidote against force as a method of progress. Rt. Hon. Ernest Lapointe, when speaking on the repeal of the section which Mr. Drew wants to revive, said: "I am not a friend of the Communists and those who say that know I am not. I abhor, I hate the teachings and ideals of Communism. But I want to fight them in a successful way, and I believe the way to fight them successfully is by argument, by attempts to have social justice everywhere and sound policies of administration."

There may be some who do not know that without any dictator's law like Section 98 we have ample safeguards of the state in our Criminal Code. Again, let me quote Mr. Lapointe. Speaking of Minister of Justice on this same issue, he said: "We have in the Criminal Code, which is based on the common law of England, all the provisions which make English law and British justice sufficient to meet all emergencies. Then he goes on to quote the provisions in the statute about sedition, treason and the rest. These the reader may look up for himself in the library. So it is not the safety of the state but rather a Fascist desire which calls for the reinstatement of Section 98."

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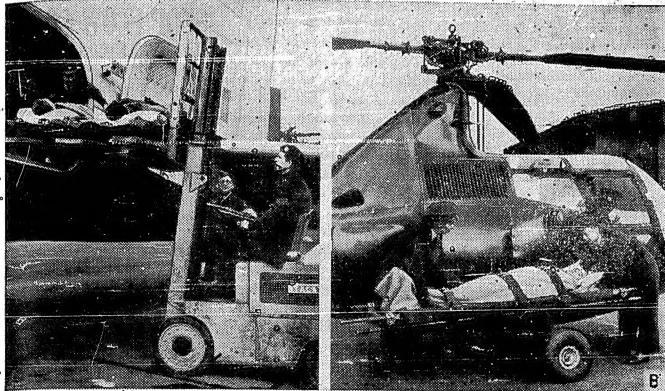
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SWIFT RESCUE of casualties was the object of an exercise staged by Britain's Royal Air Force at Brize Norton, England. Using their latest equipment, the R.A.F. demonstrated their progress in aerial rescue work since the war, when their record of evacuating British casualties was over 60 per cent from the European Theatre and nearly 100 per cent from Far East battlefronts. Left: Two "wounded" are raised aboard a flying ambulance by a Stacatral machine, a mobile elevator. Right: Hoverfly helicopter, a stretcher strapped to its side, waits to take-off while nurses make comfortable a "casualty" strapped in the stretcher. This rescue method is for areas inaccessible to normal aircraft.

Oh To Be The Middleman!

BY DONALD C. MacDONALD

THIS IS the story of a dental plate. It's a true story, and a costly one.

A few weeks ago a certain Canadian obtained a new upper plate from her local dentist. She was offered a choice: a vulcanite plate for \$50 or a plastic plate for \$75. Twenty-five dollars extra seemed a great deal for a small quantity of plastic materials, so she bought the vulcanite plate.

At this point, her husband's curiosity (or pocket-book) drove him into action. He wrote to Canadian Industries Limited, which makes dental plastic.

Replied CIL: "We get less than fifty cents for the quantity required to make one dental plate. After passing through two more hands that amount costs the dentist between one and two dollars."

In brief the dentist apparently charges an extra \$25, over and above his \$50, for material which cost him less than \$2.

The man of the house didn't rest at that point. He sent the details of the price spread on the dental plate to the Royal Commission on Prices. There, after all, is the body set up for precisely the purpose of examining price levels.

He got a reply from the Commission. They're too busy to consider it.

CRACKLINGS

In the course of an English lesson the teacher wrote on the blackboard: "He was bent on seeing his old school."

"Now, Charlie," she said. "I want you to study that sentence and then say it to me in your own words."

"After some thought Charlie said cheerfully: 'The sight of his old school doubled him up.'"

The teacher had a lot of paper work to do, so she placed her hat in front of the class to write some sentences about it.

The class was silent for about five minutes. Then came the voice of little Edward: "Please, teacher, are there two b's in 'shabby'?"

The visitor was trying to make friends with the young son of the house as he waited for the older sister to finish dressing.

"I think I have met all of your family except your Uncle Henry," he said. "How does he look—I mean which side of the house does he look like?"

The little boy considered. "I guess," he said finally, "the side with the bay window."

A couple of Scotsmen were walking along the road together and one was jingling something in his pocket. The other said, "Jock, you must have plenty of money in there."

"Oh, no," said Jock, "that's my wife's teeth . . . you see, they're too much eating between meals in our house."

When charged with being drunk and disorderly, and asked what he had to say for himself, the prisoner gazed pensively at the magistrate, smoothed down a remnant of grey hair, then said, "Your honor, 'Man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands' . . ."

mourn. I'm not so debased as Swift, as profligate as Byron, as dissipated as Poe, as debauched as . . ."

"That will do!" thundered the magistrate. "Ten days! And officer, take a list of these names and run them in. They're evidently as bad a lot as he is!"

The brakeman entered the restaurant and sat down at the counter for breakfast.

"What'll you, liave?" the girl asked.

"Bring me two headlights, a string of flats, and one in the dark," he ordered.

While the girl was new on the job she wasn't to be kidded with railroad slang. She returned with a glass of water and whistle.

"What's this, what's this?" the railroadier spluttered. "That's not what I ordered."

"I know it isn't," the girl answered coolly, "but I thought maybe you'd like to take on water and test your steam before you eat breakfast."

A woman churchgoer stopped outside to chat with a friend after services. Suddenly she remembered she had left her purse on the seat. When she returned, it was gone. She sought out the minister and found that he had picked it up.

"I felt that I had better hold it," he explained. "You know, there are some in the congregation of such simple faith as to believe it might be an answer to a prayer."

WEATHER SIGNS

New moon over my shoulder; Today is Groundhog Day; The moon 'sipped up Like a Golden Cup. So her floods must pour away! The groundhog sees his shadow; Six weeks of Winter more—The new moon and the groundhog Have kysed man, o'er and o'er.

New moon over the mountain, Like a gem in the wintry sky; But the groundhog winks As the new moon blinks, And she knows the reason why! Six weeks more of Winter—Go, pile the fuel deep; For the new moon shrouds Her face in the clouds And the groundhog goes to sleep. B. H.

Newton Station, B.C.

'Unlimited Opportunities'

By TOM RUSSELL

IN BETWEEN the wars my wife and I paid a long deferred visit to the Old Homeland.

When we were going down to the ship in the docks at Southampton to return home to Canada we passed by the C.P.R. offices. In the window was a large placard inviting people to come to Canada, the land of "Unlimited Opportunities." My wife read it and remarked, "Isn't that wicked!"

Three weeks later we stepped from the train in the C.P.R. station at Vancouver and as we walked down the street we passed a long procession of unemployed. There's your "unlimited opportunities," I cynically remarked to my wife.

Vancouver Unemployed

I was reminded of that event a few days ago when I passed by the employment office in Vancouver. It is a large office and it was crowded to the doors with numbers waiting out on the sidewalk. There are over 25,000 unemployed in B.C.

Remember the good old normal days of so-called "Free Enterprise" between the wars, the system so beloved by the Liberals, Tories and the Secreds, and endorsed by the L.P.P. at the last general election.

Remember reading the headlines in the newspapers: Deputation of unemployed wait on government—unemployed interview city council—unemployed sent to jail since there is no other place to put them—church minister pleads for food and clothing for destitute men living in jungles—unemployed risk "unemployed trek from Pacific coast to Ottawa ends in bloodshed" at Regina—Conservative government elected on promise to end unemployment—Liberal government elected in B.C. on promise of work and wages—Social Credit government elected in Alberta on promise to pay \$25 per month to all Albertans—and so on.

Capitalism's Cure

Everyone knows how the crisis was eventually overcome, but not all realize it was capitalism's historical method, the only one it knows, and that the price was paid in blood.

Now again in spite of a measure of war time prosperity another crisis is developing.

Crime is on the increase. There is an epidemic of shoplifting in Vancouver. Innocent unemployed men are being sent to jail as there is no other place to put them. The First United Church is turning away "Hungry and Homeless" because the church's relief funds are exhausted.

Profiteers Doing Nicely

Of course not all in B.C. are affected this way, some profiteers have done quite well, thank you. 1948 profits, Trail Smelter, \$32,000,000; MacMillan, the lumber

baron, over \$8,000,000 and some other minor millionaires. They are all for this system and spending big money warning people against Socialism.

A newly arrived visitor from New Zealand told me there was no unemployment in that country nor had there been since the Labor government with policies similar to those of the C.C.F. was elected some fourteen years ago.

Canada Lags Behind

In the Old Land; and they know a little more of the war than we do here, they are moving forward. Why should Canada lag behind with similar conditions to those that ushered in Hitlerism in Germany? These are unpleasant thoughts to contemplate—but it is wise to ignore them and simply drift?

Let us shake ourselves out of this apathy and as the C.C.F. advocates, change this system that only breeds wars and intermittent undeserved destitution, that values human beings at less than a farmer does his cattle, and so use the "Unlimited Possibility" we do possess to hasten the day when we can truthfully say of Canada in the words of Vining:

"Blest Land of peace! O may'st thou ever be

Even as now the land of liberty! Treading serenely thy bright onward road,

Honored of nations, and approved of God.

On thy fair front emblazoned clear and bright

Freedom, Fraternity, and Equal Right."

Land Of

(Continued from Page 4)

increased to carry the burden. What does it matter that many of Alberta's best young brains are denied the opportunity of the training they deserve? Oil will continue to flow, won't it? What does it matter that increased fees plus today's expensive board and room will strike particularly hard the out-of-the-city student? Alberta can offer oil instead of education!

What does it matter? Only this: the young men and women concerned see their hopes and dreams die; the people of Alberta lose the contributions they would have made; democracy, instead of being strengthened, receives a tragic blow beneath the belt but the victors, those who would keep us tied to the dead hand of special privilege, are made more certain of their spoil!

University students, tighten your belt! Would-be students without the necessary finances, console yourselves! This is the "land of opportunity"—for the Oil Barons!

LABOR DIRECTORY

Look Here for Information Regarding Officers, Meetings, etc., of Trade Unions and Other Labor Organizations in the Province.

EDMONTON
UNION PACKINGHOUSE WORKERS OF AMERICA—Edmonton, Alberta.
Local 233 (Bursar)—Second Monday of each month; Alberta Avenue Hall—8:00 p.m.
Local 243 (Canada Packers)—First Monday of each month; Alberta Avenue Hall—8:00 p.m.
Local 250 (Swifts)—First Thursday of each month; Alberta Avenue Hall—8:00 p.m.
Local 310 (Calmers)—Second Wednesday of each month; Ritchie Community Hall—8:00 p.m.
Local 348 (Hera Camp)—First Saturday of each month; U.P.W.A. Room—1:00 p.m.
Local 356 (N.W.M.)—Second Saturday of each month; U.P.W.A. Room—1:00 p.m.
Local 368 (Hera Camp)—First Saturday of each month; U.P.W.A. Room—1:00 p.m.
FIRE FIGHTERS, No. 200 INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF—Meets in No. 2 Fire Hall, President, A. J. G. Laurier, 1455-101 Ave. Sec-Treas., J. Graham, 11947-92 St., Edmonton.

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Why Not Barter

(Continued from page 1)

was no disputing the fact that Great Britain was fighting her way back to "incredible" recovery through bilateral trading methods, the Munk, Jav, member said.

Barter With Poland

"Recently, London concluded a billion-dollar barter agreement with Poland for livestock, cheese and other agricultural products—a deal which caused consternation in agricultural circles in Canada," Mr. Thatcher said. "We are seeing the markets for our primary products evaporate. When ERP funds are gone, I wonder in what position we will find ourselves."

"During the past year Canadian exports to Britain had shrunk rapidly in every line, and apple growers on both coasts 'are facing virtual ruin,'" Mr. Thatcher warned.

Mr. Thatcher said the United States market had always been uncertain, and Canada had no alternative but to hold and increase trade with Great Britain. Since her shortage of dollars had forced Britain to trade either in sterling or by barter, Canada must devise ways and means of increasing British imports to accept in exchange for the goods we wish to sell her.

He asked for substantial tariff concessions, and called it "economic lunacy" to consider reimposing the tariff on British cotton and rayon textiles (a move rumored for June 30th.)

Mr. Thatcher urged an immediate top-level trade conference between Britain and Canada, and he asked that import boards be established at once, which would encourage British imports.

Amazing Progress

(Continued from page 1)

This seems to be conveniently forgotten when criticisms of British housing policies are published in the "Saturday Night" (Toronto), and quoted by "The Buzzard," published by the British Columbia Electric Railway Company.

About 80 per cent of all houses built must be municipally owned and leased at moderate rents. The other 20 per cent built privately for private sale are limited to a maximum price of \$5,000 or \$8,000, depending on the locality.

UNEMPLOYMENT HIGH ON LIST OF PROBLEMS

OTTAWA, (CPA).—Most big dailies appear to be ignoring the growing unemployment in Canada, but a Gallup Poll published in the Halifax "Mail Star" on February 23rd reveals that unemployment ranks first among public problems in the Maritime provinces, and British Columbia, third in Quebec, and among the first six in Ontario.

"The high cost of living is either first or second among public problems in every province. Housing is either first, second, or third in provinces outside the Maritimes, where it gives precedence to 'Unemployment, high cost of living, lack of industries, lack of markets.'"

50-50 Chance On

(Continued from page 1)

facturers in Canada, Mr. Hanman contended.

Sees Lowered Prices

He forecast considerable difficulty to dairy farmers in getting a good price for their heavy summer production, which is customarily bought and stored for the winter months.

If the Supreme Court decision is upheld, and the sale of margarine continued, Mr. Hanman intimated that the Federation will urge a clear definition of where control powers lie, and will then approach either the federal or the provincial governments, depending on who has the authority for various control measures.

Fraud Practiced

"The CPA's main object in such a contingency would be to have margarine colored differently from butter, to avoid fraud and deception. Mr. Hanman pointed out that a survey in eight American cities showed 53 out of 159 restaurants serving oleo to the public when butter was ordered. Much fraud had been practised in Canada when margarine was produced for a short time after the first World War, but there is no 'policing' at present and Mr. Hanman said he was 'unaware of cases of fraud in Canada today.'"

The judge, about to pass sentence on a convicted thief, turned to him and said severely: "This robbery was carried out in a clever and expert manner."

"Thank you, Judge," blushed the prisoner, "but I think you're just trying to make me feel better."

Nothing Planned

(Continued from page 1)

plans before the Dominion-Provincial conference, there has been lofty talk of "cyclical budgeting" and an "emergency shelf." The government was going to "save money" and postpone public construction in boom times, and step in to save the situation in depressions.

That balloon was effectively pricked on February 23rd Mr. Coldwell had a question on the Order Paper:

"1. Has the government any plans for public works projects or any other projects ready to put into operation if and when serious unemployment should develop in Canada?"

"2. If so, how long would it take for such plans to be put into operation?"

"3. What is the estimated number of workers who could be employed in such projects within (a) one month; (b) six months; (c) one year?"

"4. What types of projects does these plans cover?"

"5. What regions or provinces are included in these projects?"

The Answer:

"1. Yes.

"2. The normal time to let contracts, about six weeks."

"3. For a construction year of 500 working days with summer peak employment:

(a) At the site itself: one month, 1,500 skilled, 1,000 unskilled; six months, 10,000 skilled, 7,000 unskilled; one year, 3,000 skilled, 2,000 unskilled."

(b) Off the site, in fabrication of materials and equipment 15,700 industrial workers."

"4. Highways, roads, streets; public buildings and grounds; residential construction; bridges; docks, wharves, piers; rivers, canals, dredging."

"5. All provinces, the Yukon and Northwest Territories."

Answer in hand, Mr. Coldwell pursued the matter. "Credulously, he asked if the figure 5,000 was a typographical error? The minister said no."

"But surely the figure is wrong?" said the C.C.F. leader, "in view of the report the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Mayhew) has made of 50,000 unemployed right now in the Vancouver area!"

"There was no error. This was the actual amount of depression preparedness on the government's shelf."

"Messre, Puny, inadequate"

A few minutes later Roy R. Knight, taking the floor in the Throne Speech debate, discarded his notes on agriculture to denounce this "messre, puny and inadequate plan."

"Where were the vast irrigation and reforestation programs? Mr. Knight asked. During the years before war unemployed men had been shunted from place to place, with provincial and municipal governments unable to bear the load. Was this going to happen all over again?"

"Since the Dominion government can raise the money, since it has the power to initiate public works, responsibility for the unemployed of this nation must fall squarely upon its shoulders. This blueprint is totally and miserably inadequate," Mr. Knight said.

"An Old Trading Horse"

Mr. Knight accused Agriculture Minister Gardiner of trotting out promises of prairie irrigation like "an old trading horse" for every election. Surface water had been marked in black patches on a map which was widely used in the Northern by-election, and "several of those black patches

Reject Cheap

(Continued from page 1)

of the Saskatchewan scheme. Unable to ignore the advantages of the plan, or its low cost to the motorist, the committee seeks to discredit it with such terms as "paternalistic" and "totalitarian." In language reminiscent of Social Credit Board reports it is contended that such a measure, as the Saskatchewan act "invokes all the evils of paternalism under which the individual tends to lose both his initiative and his independence."

Admitting that rates charged to the motorist under the Saskatchewan plan are much lower than those of private insurance companies, the committee dismisses this phase of the question with the conclusion: "Can the Saskatchewan plan continue to operate successfully on its existing rate structure? Saskatchewan government officials say yes; private companies, with their background of experience, say no. The committee agrees with the latter."

Million Surplus in Sask.

All this is in spite of the admitted fact that a surplus of more than a million dollars has been accumulated in two years' operation in Saskatchewan. The committee's excuse for ignoring this is contained in the sentence: "It is the considered opinion of insurance men that five years or more must elapse before success or failure of such a venture can be forecast."

"Too High"

The committee admits that "no uninsured motor vehicle should be on the road," and that "insurance should be considered as much a part of the expense of operating an automobile as the cost of gasoline, oil and repairs." It also says, "no one can deny that the present cost of automobile insurance is too high."

But the only recommendation the committee has to make toward reducing the cost is the suggestion that if people who drive cars are more careful there will be fewer accidents and then the insurance companies will reduce their rates."

had been conveniently moved up into Rosthern constituency.

"Next year those black patches may be in the Saskatoon territory, but I doubt very much whether the duck population will be increased thereby," Mr. Knight finished dryly.

CAN'T LET DOLLARS STOP FLOW GOODS

OTTAWA, (CPA).—"If we are going to retain or recapture the United Kingdom and European markets we cannot in the future permit the question of dollars to interfere with the exchange of our commodities," H. W. Herridge, (C.C.F., Kootenay West) said in the House of Commons recently in the Throne Speech debate.

"The B.C. member said that the free fruit industry in B.C. is in a 'serious position' because of the government's failure to set up a national marketing agency for farm products."

Mr. Herridge made a strong plea for development of the Canadian portion of the Columbia River basin. The estimated potential development of electrical energy in the basin was about 4,000,000 kilowatts, he said. It could serve agriculture and secondary industries, and bring about the establishment of a large pulp industry in Kootenay West.

Unlimited Purse

(Continued from page 1)

to the Tories. The P.C.'s friends, on Bay Street, are sparing nothing to finance the last-ditch bid of the Conservatives to keep their former place as a major party in Canada.

\$5,000 Monthly in Quebec

A Quebec M.P. estimates that \$5,000 a month is being spent in Quebec alone on radio advertising. In "Le Devoir" large display ads have appeared almost daily for some weeks past, describing Mr. Drew as the "ami véritable" of French Canadians. The by-election in Nicolet-Yamaska on February 7 will be some indication of how much impressed, Quebec is by this outpouring of Drew affection.

"Keep Ontario Strong"

Million-dollar campaigns are about normal for both Liberals and Conservatives, but judging by P.C. efforts to date, the Tories are out to break all records for colossal spending in the coming federal election.

Al O'Brien, secretary to M. J. Coldwell and a former Haligonian, suggests that C.C.F.ers in the Maritimes and the West augment the P.C. display with a few of Drew's second-hand provincial posters. Those "Keep Ontario Strong" placards would look mighty fine on prairie fences.

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